



Comix Wave 70!

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 LOGO: DAVID MILLER
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April and Kevin Eastman



FAN'TOONS 24 is \$1.50 from Edd Vick, 5014-D Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105. Ed works on the newwave mini-comix tabloid, COMIX F/X. You can get a sample of the paper for \$1 from POB 95968, Seattle, WA 98145-2968. Bruce Sweeney's column is now running in F/X. Brad Foster still publishes his own line of mini-comix. GOODIES is up to issue 50 and STUFF to 11. Write to Jabberwocky Graphix, 4109 Pleasant Run, Irving, TX, for his catalog.* ELF THE BARBARIAN 2 AND RED VALIRIA 2 are \$1 cash from Kenny Moran, 244 Balmoral, Wpg., Manitoba, Canada R3C 1X6.* MISC 25 is \$2 from Randy Paske, 656 Birch Ln, Gilbert, MN 55141.* Joseph Williams, 901 Oakland, #5, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 has 4 7x9 DZs: SURPRISE COMIX, BO COMIX, TALES FROM THE CHOW, and DEMENTED COMIX. \$3 should get you the 4. EL VIBORA is 100! Still grossing out Spain. \$10 from Jose M. Berenguer, Plaza Beatas 3.08003, Barcelona, Spain.*

TALES CALCULATED TO GIVE YOU ROAD RASH 1.

Just when you thought Underground comix had passed into the sewer of history, along comes ROAD RASH to restore your faith. If you've even been a skateboarder, this one is right up your ramp. Some great art by John Phillips who made the old SLUG Worth collecting. You can get a copy for \$2.75 pp from Phillips Studios, 4401 Soquel Dr. Soquel, CA 95073.



THE CULT OF BETTY

It was Jeff Rund that revived Betty Page and turned a whole generation of guys used to those angular fashion models in *PLAYBOY* back to rounded women. Jeff ran a couple of issues of *BETTY PAGE* back in the seventies and it's quite probable that Dave Stevens saw at least one of them when he was deciding on the model to be used for the heroine in *THE ROCKETEER*. That's not certain. I didn't ask him, but it's plausible so I'll go with it until corrected. Betty had that 'girl next door' look that *PLAYBOY* cultivated in the pre-plastic surgery days when both models and photographers accepted nature instead of redesigning it with latex and silicone.

Pin-up artists always make a living. That's the word from inside the comic business. Back in the days when Al Capp introduced the first major pin-up girls with Daisy Mae and Wolf Gal and Moonbeam McSwine [the latter with help from Frank Frazetta], it was said that no cartoonist who could draw a beautiful female would ever go hungry. Whether that is truth or myth, we'll never know, but cartoonists did make a good living when their strips were widely syndicated. Today's pin-up artists tend to make their money from the money companies and do their comics more as a hobby. I suspect one movie poster means more bucks than an entire comic book. I think Bill Stout told me that at a comic convention years ago. Maybe it was Stevens. Too long ago. That shouldn't be true, but I doubt that Matt Baker who did those beautiful *Phantom Ladies* and jungle women ever wound up



with much money in the bank. I know Wally Wood didn't.

Anyway, Dave Stevens reintroduced Betty Page in his *Rocketeer* series, the newest of which has just started from Comico, and there are two issues of *THE BETTY PAGES*, a New York zine that covers or uncovers Betty periodically.

I'm going to avoid the sexist, sex object, discussion here. If you're a young comic reader, you probably love all those space and jungle women in their bikinis and could care less what the feminists think about it all. If you are a sensitive woman who thinks pin-up art is exploitation, best avoid comic books entirely. Hey, avoid *MS. MAGAZINE*, too. Or wasn't that a pin-up of Cindy Lauper on the cover? Personally, I like looking at girls and their bodies sometimes [usually when I'm awake] and since most of the photos in the women's mags are of women I suspect women enjoy the same activity though perhaps for different reasons. In any case, pin-up art has returned to the comix world and Stevens is the finest craftsman in this field since Frank Frazetta and Boris Vallejo.

The covers on the new *JUNGLE* series are worth the cover price. The interior art is so-so and the stories are even less so-so, but, hey, just tear off the covers and keep them in a binder.

C. G.



above: Private photo clubs produced hundreds of nude and semi-nude shots of Betty Page.

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